

AAU: Keynote summary, Michael Lundgaard Thomsen, Aalborg Portland

Climate ambitions in Denmark with a 70% reduction target in 2030 and in EU with a CO₂-neutral target in 2050 are accelerating the green transition of the cement industry.

The cement industry is one of the hard to abate sectors due to the energy intensive production (40-50% of the scope 1 emissions) and the mineralogical process-emissions from the limestone (50-60% of the scope 1 emissions).

On the one hand, the cement industry accounts on global level for up to 8% of the CO₂-emissions, but on the other hand, the cement industry produces an indispensable product for the construction sector.

Due to the growing urbanisation, establishing of green energy facilities and climate protection the need for cement is estimated to double in 2025. Therefore, a green transition of the cement industry is mandatory and unavoidable.

At Aalborg Portland, the CO₂-reduction target for 2030 is 30% with existing technologies and policies but going further towards a 70% or 100% CO₂-reduction can potentially be possible with the right policies, subsidies, energy sources and technologies. In short, a reduction beyond 30% is closely dependent on external factors.

Director of the Aalborg Portland cement plant, Michael Lundgaard Thomsen, will present the 2030 roadmap for cement production in Denmark and will also give insight about the Climate Partnership for Energy Intensive Industry, which was established by the Danish government with the aim of counselling the government on climate policies.